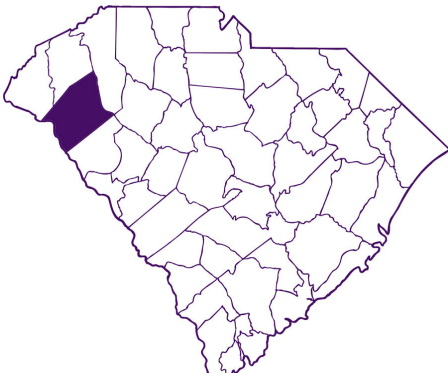


# Annual Report to the People

November 2012  
Anderson County



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## Mission Statement

The mission of the Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service is to provide sound, scientifically based information to South Carolinians and help them use that information to improve the quality of their lives.

South Carolina Cooperative Extension is based at South Carolina's two land-grant institutions, Clemson University and South Carolina State University, in all 46 counties, and at the five Research & Education Centers. Focusing upon research-based information in agriculture, environment, food safety & nutrition, economic & community development, youth & families; Cooperative Extension Service engages citizens to help build a better South Carolina.

The Anderson County Extension office is one of 19 Service Centers in the state of South Carolina. We offer soil analysis, plant and weed identification, unbiased agricultural educational programming and numerous youth activities within 4-H. Our daily operating hours are 8:00am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm- 4:30pm Monday - Friday.

## Trottin' Tigers 4-H Horse Club Burst on the Scene

The Trottin' Tigers 4-H Horse Club, a new 4-H Club for 2011- 2012 competed at the South Carolina 4-H Horse Judging Contest on June 18 after several months of preparation and hard work.

Their hard work paid off with an outstanding finish in all of the events. The Junior Team (Jenna Beare, Madison Nations, Helen Schmidt, Kayleigh Beecher & Kassie Nations) placed 1st in the reasons phase and 3rd in the judging phase. They were 1st place in the state overall!

Members also competed in the State 4-H Horse Show, June 19-21 Jenna Beare was Junior High Point Western Horse and qualified for regionals. Kassie and Madison Nations placed in all of their classes and also qualified for regionals!

Congratulations to all members of the Trottin' Tigers 4-H Horse Judging Teams and riders on a job well done!



## Going Green in SC

Gardening has long been one of America's favorite pastimes. But, a renewed interest has once again brought gardening programs to the forefront. The Junior Master Gardener (JMG) program provides youth in Anderson County K-12 an opportunity to develop life skills through hands on multidisciplinary non-formal science based education. The JMG program is a fully developed curriculum and includes plant growth and development, soils and water, Insects and disease, ecology and the environment, and healthy nutrition.

JMG is an effective, low cost, multidisciplinary tool utilized to teach students basic standards. Anderson County schools readily embrace the JMG 4-H Afterschool Program. In the past program year 182 youth in eight clubs were served in our 4-H JMG program. The program was implemented by the local 4-H youth agent and by eight local, dedicated Master Gardener volunteers.



During the past program year work began on the development of a simplified, 16 lesson program. Each is supported by an instruction guide and a materials kit. Products for the kits were made available through a \$4100 grant from Clemson University and the continued generous support of the local Master Gardener program. Purchases include a wide variety of products.

## Anderson County Livestock Show

On September 24-26, 2010 the Anderson County Cooperative Extension office conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Anderson County Livestock Show. This livestock show allows youth from around the Upstate an opportunity to exhibit their animals, visit with other youth and adults with like interests, and to earn rewards for their hard work and long hours. By raising show animals and competing, the youth are learning valuable animal husbandry lessons in nutrition, genetics, reproduction, animal health, and handling techniques. Showing livestock also helps build confidence in the youth and teaches responsibility.

The Anderson County Livestock Show continues to get bigger and better each year. In all, 222 youth from South Carolina and Georgia participated in this three day event. Seven species of livestock, totaling 364 head, were exhibited.



This show would not be possible without the support from sponsorship and donations from local businesses, producers, and Anderson County Council. Approximately \$10,000 was raised for the 2010 show. An additional \$2000 in scholarships and three belt buckles, totaling \$600 were donated. We are grateful to our sponsors and volunteers for making the 2010 Anderson County Livestock Show a huge success.



## Anderson, Oconee & Pickens County Master Gardener Program

The Master Gardener program offers research-based horticultural information in an exciting and educational format. The course is taught over a 16 week period covering subjects from Botany and Pesticide Safety to Vegetable Gardening. Participants then use their new knowledge to serve the local communities by educating others.

Thirty-four students attended the course and fourteen students graduated as Certified S.C. Master Gardeners. Each student is required to volunteer forty hours to the local community.

According to Independent Sector.org volunteer hours are worth \$16.91/hour in South Carolina. Our 2012 Master Gardener Class will potentially donate 1360 hours to South Carolina for a total value of \$22,997 worth of volunteer service to their local community.

# One More Shot 4-H Shotgun Club Members Win Big



Local 4-H members win big at the SC Youth Shooting Foundation Competition taking place at the Partridge Creek Gun Club. Pictured above (L to R) Adam Willey of Pendleton, Stone Grant of Belton and Nick Buckner of Anderson. This team won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Senior Advanced Division and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 4-H Division with a team score of 255 out of 300. Adam Willey was the highest individual scorer of the Senior Advanced Division with a score of 90 out of 100. This was a Skeet and Trap Competition.

Team members of the “One More Shot” 4-H Club practice on Sunday afternoons at the Pickens Bend Range in Pendleton, throughout the year. Individuals and their parents travel across the state to compete against other 4-H teams in Sporting Clays, Skeet and Trap. Volunteer leaders Rick Willey and Randall Grant provide instruction to the youth to improve their skills. As a result, team members have won numerous awards as well as scholarships.

## Horticulture Short Course

Horticulture, such as gardening and landscaping are becoming as popular hobbies as hunting and fishing. Anderson County residents can't wait for Forsythia, Dogwoods and Azaleas to begin to bloom each year, because when this happens, they know spring has arrived. Our office begins to receive numerous gardening questions and lots of soil samples. With the requests for horticulture information, we decided to host a mini-series with five horticulture topics: Soils, Pruning, Turf Management, Landscape Design and Pesticide Usage and Safety. This series was open to homeowners, landscapers, lawn maintenance workers, fruit and vegetable producers and commercial greenhouse operators.

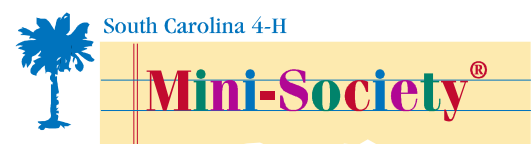
Soil was the first topic for discussion because without knowledge of soils, almost everything in horticulture would not be possible. Pruning is one of the chores that are necessary for aesthetic value of ornamental plants and fruit production. Turf management is extremely popular with our homeowners and lawn maintenance workers. Landscape design is very important because each and every new home or business is required to have a plan before final inspection. Pesticides are used by almost everyone on the planet to control insect, weeds and diseases.

The Anderson County Extension Office provided the location for the 2012 Horticulture Short Course. The five week courses began February 16 and ended in early March. Each three hours class was taught by Clemson Extension Agents and Specialists. Not only did our participants receive extensive knowledge in each topic, they also received three hours of pesticide recertification credit. In addition to this educational opportunity, Anderson County residents had the opportunity to participate in four other recertification programs this year. This was a total of 78 participants gaining knowledge and receiving CEU's.

## Entrepreneur Education for Youth

Over the summer, Anderson County 4-H offered an opportunity for 28 limited resource youth 8-12 years old to learn life-skills through an experience-based approach to teaching entrepreneurial, economic, and citizenship concepts. The Mini-Society® curriculum has been endorsed by the United States Department of Education. Cross-referencing with the South Carolina State Standards indicates a match in social studies and history for grades three to seven. The curriculum has been implemented in 43 states and refined over four decades.

During Mini-Society® youth establish their own society, print their own money, open businesses, and create a governing body.





[www.clemson.edu/extension/county/anderson](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/county/anderson)

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages regardless, of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.

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Public Service Activities

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## Corn and Soybean Update for Producers

The upstate area of South Carolina is not known as a large corn and soybean production area of the state. However, there are still a large number of row crop producers who either farm full time or part time. These producers are still in need of valuable research based information provided through Clemson University to help maximize their production systems. With the emergence of the new invasive insects like the Asiatic Soybean Plataspid, Round-UP resistant weeds like Palmer Amaranth, and potential devastating diseases like Asiatic Soybean Rust, the need for this type of program is even more critical.

Area Agronomic Crops Agent Chris Talley, has begun to schedule an annual Upstate Corn and Soybean Production Meeting. This meeting is held in Anderson and is made available to all upstate row

crop producers. The program is conducted through the assistance of a number of Clemson Extension Specialists. By attending these meeting

producers learned how to tailor their herbicide programs and management strategies to deal with; glyphosate resistant weeds, soybean plataspid (Kudzu Bug), and soybean rust. In

addition information was also given on developing budgets and outlooks for corn and soybeans, as well as production practices for corn and soybeans, information on different varieties, and the benefits of conventional varieties of soybeans.

The 2012 producer meeting had 27 row crop producers in attendance from six upstate counties representing over 8,000 acres of row crops. All producers expressed a valuable knowledge gain which will help them be more profitable in their row crop production.

